

PALATINE PARK DISTRICT DRESS REHEARSAL, PICTURES, AND RECITAL INFORMATION 2025

The time is here! This packet will include all of the important information about the dates ahead for your dancers. **The most important change this year is our Picture Day and Dress Rehearsals will all happen on the same day.**

If you have any questions at all, please reach out to Mallory Peters, Dance Manager, at dance@palatineparks.org or Lisa Swan, Cultural Arts Coordinator, at LSwan@palatineparks.org.

Important Dates:

- *Company* Rehearsal and Picture Day: Monday, May 19 at 4:45pm in Cutting Hall
 - This includes all of company (mini, heart, and soul) as well as our company ballet classes and pointe class. Enter through the main doors and lobby.
- Dress Rehearsal and Picture Day: Friday, May 30 at 4:45pm in Cutting Hall
 - This time is for all remaining classes. Enter at the main doors and lobby.
- Morning Recital: Saturday, May 31 at 10am in Cutting Hall - Call time for **DANCERS ONLY at 9:30am**. Please have your dancer to Cutting Hall ON TIME. Enter at the main doors.
- Afternoon Recital: Saturday, May 31 at 1pm in Cutting Hall – Call time for **DANCERS ONLY at 12:30pm**. PLEASE BE ON TIME. Enter at the main doors.

What to Wear:

For all of the above dates, please wear your recital costume as well as full hair and makeup. We are taking professional pictures with VIP between rehearsal times.

Costumes: Please make sure you have all costumes, tights and accessories organized! We recommend putting your name in all clothing and accessories (especially basics like black pants/shorts that most dancers have!) to make sure that no mix-ups occur. A dance bag or basket is helpful. Skin colored tights are allowed with every costume, unless noted otherwise by the teacher.

Please note that only skin-colored undergarments are allowed to be worn underneath costumes! No colored bras, underwear, or leotards are allowed.

Please take off all jewelry prior to going onstage. This includes hair ties on wrists, earrings, etc!

PLEASE DRINK WATER ONLY IN YOUR COSTUME!! NO FOOD WHILE WEARING COSTUMES.

Makeup: While makeup is optional, teachers will discuss specific makeup requirements with each class. It is recommended dancers should wear at least eye shadow, mascara, blush, and lipstick as we do not want them to look washed out under the stage lights.

Hair: Teachers will discuss specific hair requirements in class. Hair should at least be pulled back and out of the face, in either half up/half down, ponytail, or bun. Please match all hair elastics,

hair nets, and bobby pins to your hair color. Make sure to use hairspray to ensure that your hair does not come undone during performance!

Dress Rehearsal – What to Expect

Dress rehearsal is an opportunity for your students to practice their routines on the big stage as well as get their professional pictures taken. Dancers will be staying in the auditorium during dress rehearsal. This is the only opportunity for them to see other classes and teachers' performances.

Arrival: Please enter through the front doors at Cutting Hall at **4:45pm**. Check in will be at a table in the lobby where parent/guardians must sign in their dancer. We encourage a chaperone to stay in case they need help with changing.

Every class will have their group and individual pictures taken before they rehearse on stage. We will be on a tight schedule so it will be important to be seated with your class until you are called. A schedule will be released so everyone can be prepped ahead of time.

Dancers are able to leave once they are done with all of their dances and pictures. Each teacher will dismiss them. Please check out at the same table that you checked in at so that we can ensure everyone gets home safe. Dancers must be checked out by a parent/guardian. No exceptions!!! Safety is our number one priority. Please let us know if your dancer will be going home with another parent or guardian.

There are bathrooms/dress rehearsal rooms for anyone who needs to change. Photography is NOT allowed in the auditorium. Videotaping is only allowed for at home practice and is approved by the teacher. Photography is allowed in the lobby.

NO FOOD OR DRINK IS ALLOWED IN THE AUDITORIUM. Please do not send your dancer with drinks from Starbucks!

Dancers and their chaperone sitting in the auditorium during dress rehearsal are expected to be quiet and respectful of the dancers onstage.

You are encouraged to bring homework or a book, if desired.

Recital – What to Expect

Arrival: Dancers are expected to arrive at their dancer call time in their first costume with their hair and makeup done. Parents/guardians will not be allowed in the auditorium until closer to show time. Please drop students off at the main entrance for check in and sign in.

Dancers are encouraged to bring something to keep them busy while they are backstage. All dancers will come back onstage for the finale at the end of the show in their last costume! Please stay until the end so that your dancer can go back onstage and be applauded again for their hard work!

Only volunteers and teachers will be backstage with the dancers during the show.

The doors to the theater will open 10 minutes before the show time. No photography or videography is permitted during the recital!

NO FOOD OR DRINK IN THE AUDITORIUM! Please notify us in advance if your dancer will be going home with another parent/guardian, or if they are driving themselves.

Checklist -

- Costumes
- Hair accessories
- Tights (skin colored)
- Makeup
- Nail polish remover
- Hair elastics
- Bobby pins
- Hair nets
- Makeup remover
- Hairspray
- Dance shoes
- Snack
- Labeled Water bottle

Please be aware that PPD is not responsible for lost or stolen items. PPD recommends that you do not bring valuable items backstage with you.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Where can I purchase recital tickets?

Tickets will be purchased through Cutting Hall. As we they become available, we will send out emails!

Where do I purchase pictures?

VIP will have a QR code to sign up at dress rehearsal for an email notification when pictures are ready. You will then be able to purchase your class pictures once they are available from that email.

Why are dancers required to wear makeup?

Dancers wear makeup to enhance their facial features, which get washed out under the bright stage lights!

If I volunteer to help backstage, can I still watch my child dance?

Yes! You can either watch from backstage or slip into the audience before your child's dance.

Why aren't I allowed backstage with my child?

It would be too difficult to keep track of everyone if each child had a parent backstage! You are always welcome to volunteer to be a backstage helper. Volunteers and backstage helpers are assigned to stay with dancers backstage, and can help with costumes, bathroom breaks, etc. All volunteers must have filled out a volunteer application with the park district and pass a background check prior to volunteering. Background checks take about a week to come back. If you wish to be a volunteer, please fill out this form: <https://forms.gle/vdyLw1Y5KHUFPELe6>

When are we allowed to take photos/videos?

Flash photography can be extremely dangerous to the dancers. We ask that you only take photos of your own child, and do not post photos containing children other than your own on social media. Please respect everyone's right to privacy! Videotaping and photography are NOT allowed during the recital. It is very distracting to other audience members trying to enjoy the show.

Does my child have to stay for the entire show?

Yes, please! All our dancers have worked very hard and deserve to be recognized in the final bows at the end of the show! It also makes it much more difficult for us to ensure that everyone is released to the proper adult if dancers are leaving midperformance. Each recital will last about 75 minutes.

Who can come to dress rehearsal?

Dancers should be accompanied by ONE adult. You may bring an additional guest if they'd like

to see your dancer's performance. Dancers should bring homework or something to do while not dancing.

What happens at the end of the show?

All our dancers will come back out at the very end of the performance to take a final bow! At the conclusion of the ceremony, **our youngest dancers will remain onstage**, and a parent/guardian is invited to come forward and pick them up and sign them out! Their teacher must see them matching with you to be released.

REHEARSAL/PICTURE SCHEDULE WILL BE SENT OUT SEPARATELY AS WE GET CLOSER TO MAY. PLEASE KEEP AN EYE OUT FOR EMAILS FROM DANCE@PALATINEPARKS.ORG.